

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A computer information system, comprising:

a provider for ~~providing~~ receiving signaling from a recipient for said provider to provide said information to said recipient and for providing said information to said recipient responsive to said signaling;

said provider charging a different amount for providing said information to said recipient depending upon whether or not said information is recorded or permitted to be recorded in a non-sequentially accessible medium; and

recording of said information in said medium is permitted if a value of an identifier read from said medium is a registered ID value,

recording of said information in said medium is prevented if any registered ID value is not readable from said medium.

15.-16.(Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of processing information, said method comprising the steps of:

providing information to a recipient responsive to signaling received from said recipient for said provider to provide said information to said recipient;

charging a different amount for providing said information depending upon whether or not said information is recorded or permitted to be recorded in a non-sequentially accessible medium; and

permitting recording of said information in said medium if a value of an identifier read from said medium is a registered ID value, preventing recording of said information in said medium if any registered ID value is not readable from said medium.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of processing information, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving information from a provider responsive to signaling received from said recipient for said provider to provide said information to said recipient;

charging a different amount for providing said information depending upon whether or not recording of said information in a non-sequentially accessible medium occurs or is permitted; and

recording of said information in said medium is permitted if a value of an identifier read from said medium is a registered ID value,

recording of said information in said medium is prevented if any registered ID value is not readable from said medium.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer information system, comprising:

a recipient for receiving information from a provider responsive to signaling received from said recipient for said provider to provide said information to said recipient;

said recipient being charged a different amount for providing said information depending upon whether or not recording of said information in a non-sequentially accessible medium occurs or is permitted; and

recording of said information in said medium is permitted if a value of an identifier read from said medium is a registered ID value,

recording of said information in said medium is prevented if any registered ID value is not readable from said medium.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A signal transmitted from a recipient of information to a provider of information, said signal indicating that recording of said information in a non-sequentially accessible medium is permitted or has occurred if a value of an identifier read from said medium is a registered ID value, recording of said information in said medium is prevented if any registered ID value is not readable from said medium, wherein providing of said information responsive to signaling received from said recipient for said provider to provide said information to said recipient is charged differently depending upon said signal irrespective of whether said information is viewed.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of processing information, said method comprising the step of:

transmitting a signal from a recipient of information, that receives said information responsive to signaling received from said recipient for said provider to provide said information to said recipient, to a provider of said information, said signal indicating that recording of a non-sequentially accessible information in said medium is permitted if a value of an identifier read from said medium is a registered ID value, recording of said information in said medium is prevented if any registered ID value is not readable from said medium, wherein said information is charged differently depending upon said signal irrespective of whether said information is viewed.

23.-36.(Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) An information receiver comprising:

a receiving unit to receive information from a provider responsive to signaling received from said recipient for said provider to provide said information to said recipient; and

a recording unit to record the information in a non-sequentially accessible medium,

the recording of the information in the medium is permitted if a value of an identifier in the medium is a registered ID value,

recording of said information in said medium is prevented if any registered ID value is not readable from said medium, and

a different amount for providing said information being charged based on whether or not the information is recorded or permitted to be recorded or permitted to be recorded in the medium.

38.-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) The information receiver according to claim 37, further comprising:

an information designating unit to designate the information.

41. (Previously Presented) The information receiver according to claim 37, further comprising:

an informing unit to inform that the identifier is wrong if the identifier is not registered.

42. (Previously Presented) The information receiver according to claim 37, the information includes at least one of audio and video information, audio information, video information, a computer program, and game software.

43.-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Previously Presented) A computer information system according to claim 14, wherein said registered ID value is provided by said provider.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) A method of processing information according to claim 17, wherein said registered ID value is provided by said provider.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Previously Presented) A method of processing information according to claim 18, wherein said registered ID value is provided by said provider.

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Previously Presented) A computer information system according to claim 19, wherein said registered ID value is provided by said provider.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Previously Presented) A signal transmitted according to claim 21, wherein said registered ID value is provided by said provider.

54. (Cancelled)

55. (Previously Presented) A method of processing information according to claim 22, wherein said registered ID value is provided by said provider.

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Previously Presented) An information receiver according to claim 37, wherein said registered ID value is provided by said provider.

58. (Previously Presented) A computer information system according to claim 14, wherein:

a drive ID is checked, and

if said drive ID is registered, recording of said information in said medium is permitted.

59. (Previously Presented) A computer information system according to claim 14, further comprising:

a memory for storing said information, wherein said stored information is erased after a designated time.

60. (New) The computer information system according to claim 14,

said signaling further contains a flag indicating an output to which the recipient outputs the information, and

said provider charging the different amount for providing said information based on the flag.

61. (New) A method of processing information according to claim 17,

said signaling further contains a flag indicating an output to which the recipient outputs the information, and

said provider charging the different amount for providing said information based on the flag.

62. (New) A method of processing information according to claim 18,

said signaling further contains a flag indicating an output to which the recipient outputs the information, and

said provider charging the different amount for providing said information based on the flag.

63. (New) A computer information system according to claim 19,

said signaling further contains a flag indicating an output to which the recipient outputs the information, and

said provider charging the different amount for providing said information based on the flag.

64. (New) A method of processing information according to claim 22,

said signaling further contains a flag indicating an output to which the recipient outputs the information, and

said provider charging the different amount for providing said information based on the flag.

65. (New) An information receiver according to claim 37,

said signaling further contains a flag indicating an output to which the recipient outputs the information, and

said provider charging the different amount for providing said information based on the flag.

66. (New) The computer information system according to claim 60,

said provider further contains a recipient's mode recognizing apparatus receiving said flag and recognizing said output to which said recipient outputs said information in accordance with the flag.

67. (New) The computer information system according to claim 66,

said provider further contains a charging apparatus charging said different amount for providing said information based on said output recognized and corresponding charges.

68. (New) The computer information system according to claim 67,

said signaling contains an ID number of requested audio/video information, and

said provider further contains a information providing apparatus providing said information identified by the ID number of requested audio/video information, responsive to said signaling,

wherein said charging and said providing are processed in charging apparatus and information providing apparatus respectively, responsive to said signaling received by said provider .